

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 273027

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DRAFTED BY HUD/SFI:DRFREEMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR AGREEMENT ON HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION:

VISIT OF HUD OFFICIAL TO SOVIET UNION

REF: STATE 262749

1. AS NOTED IN REFTEL, HUD HAS BEEN DESIGNATED EXECUTIVE AGENT IN US FOR US-USSR AGREEMENT ON HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION, WITH HUD SECRETARY AS US CO-CHAIRMAN OF JOINT COMMITTEE AND L. WAYNE GERMENIAN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL LIAISON, THE US EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

2. GERTMENIAN PROPOSES TO VISIT MOSCOW ARRIVING JANUARY 25 TO MEET WITH HIS COUNTERPART (AS YET UNNAMED) AND OTHER SOVIET OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR FIRST JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN WASHINGTON DURING FOURTH WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1975. HE MAY BE ACCOMPANINED BY ONE OR TWO STAFF MEMBERS.

3. HUD PLANS TO FORWARD BY END OF DECEMBER NAMES OF US

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PAGE 02 STATE 273027

MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEE, AND SUGGESTIONS FOR AGENDA AND

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT FIRST JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING.

4. FOLLOWING AN ESTIMATED THREE DAYS FOR ABOVE DISCUSSIONS, GERTMENIAN DESIRES TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VISIT TO USSR TO MAKE STUDY TOUR OF GOLDEN RING TOWNS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION SITES IN AND AROUND MOSCOW (2 DAYS) AND TO VISIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND NEW TOWN SITES IN THE CAUCASUS AREA, PARTICULARLY THE CITIES OF TBILISI (1 DAY) AND YEREVAN (2-3 DAYS). (FYI: GERTMENIAN INFORMALLY DISCUSSED THESE INTERESTS WITH ANATOLII ROMAS' OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECTURE DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN NOVEMBER AS MEMBER OF SOVIET URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP. ROMAS' INDICATED SUCH A STUDY TOUR COULD BE ARRANGED AND INVITED GERTMENIAN TO MAKE THE TOUR.)

5. REQUEST EMBASSY INFORM I.T. NOVIKOV, CHAIRMAN OF GOSSTROI (AND USSR CO-CHAIRMAN OF JOINT COMMITTEE; SEE REFTEL), OF GERTMENIAN'S PROPOSED VISIT TO USSR AND HUD'S INTENTION TO FORWARD BY END OF DECEMBER PROPOSED TOPICS FOR JOINT COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS. IN REQUESTING SOVIET CONFIRMATION OF TIMING OF JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING AND GERTMENIAN VISIT, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ALSO OBTAINING AND REPORTING ASAP NAME AND TITLE OF SOVIET EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR THE AGREEMENT.

6. GERTMENIAN WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY - AT ITS DISCRETION - PASSING HIS REGARDS TO SERGEI ZMUEL, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECTURE, AND ADVISING HIM OF GERTMENIAN'S PROPOSED VISIT. ZMUEL WAS ONE OF KEY NEGOTIATORS ON NEW AGREEMENT WHOM GERTMENIAN MET IN MOSCOW IN MAY AND AGAIN LAST SEPTEMBER IN GENEVA DURING MEETING OF ECE HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE, WHERE ZMUEL HEADED SOVIET DELEGATION. INGERSOLL

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